

25-CITIES INITIATIVE FACT SHEET

- ☑ **What is the 25-Cities Initiative? *A local approach to a national problem.*** The President has stated goals of reducing drug use among all Americans by 10 percent in two years and 25 percent in five years. As part of the strategy to accomplish this, the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) is directly engaging with local officials and concerned citizens in 25 of America's largest cities. Though drug use has harmed all cities, America's largest cities have been particularly hard hit. By meeting with local leaders and developing teams of local citizens and officials to identify problems they can address, our mutual long term goals in these cities will be: stopping drug use before it starts, healing those who are using drugs, and disrupting the market for drugs. The 25-Cities Initiative will work with the leadership of 25 targeted cities—particularly in the areas of drug prevention, drug treatment, and public safety—to enhance cooperation, and to identify and accomplish significant improvement in certain key measures of drug use in each city.

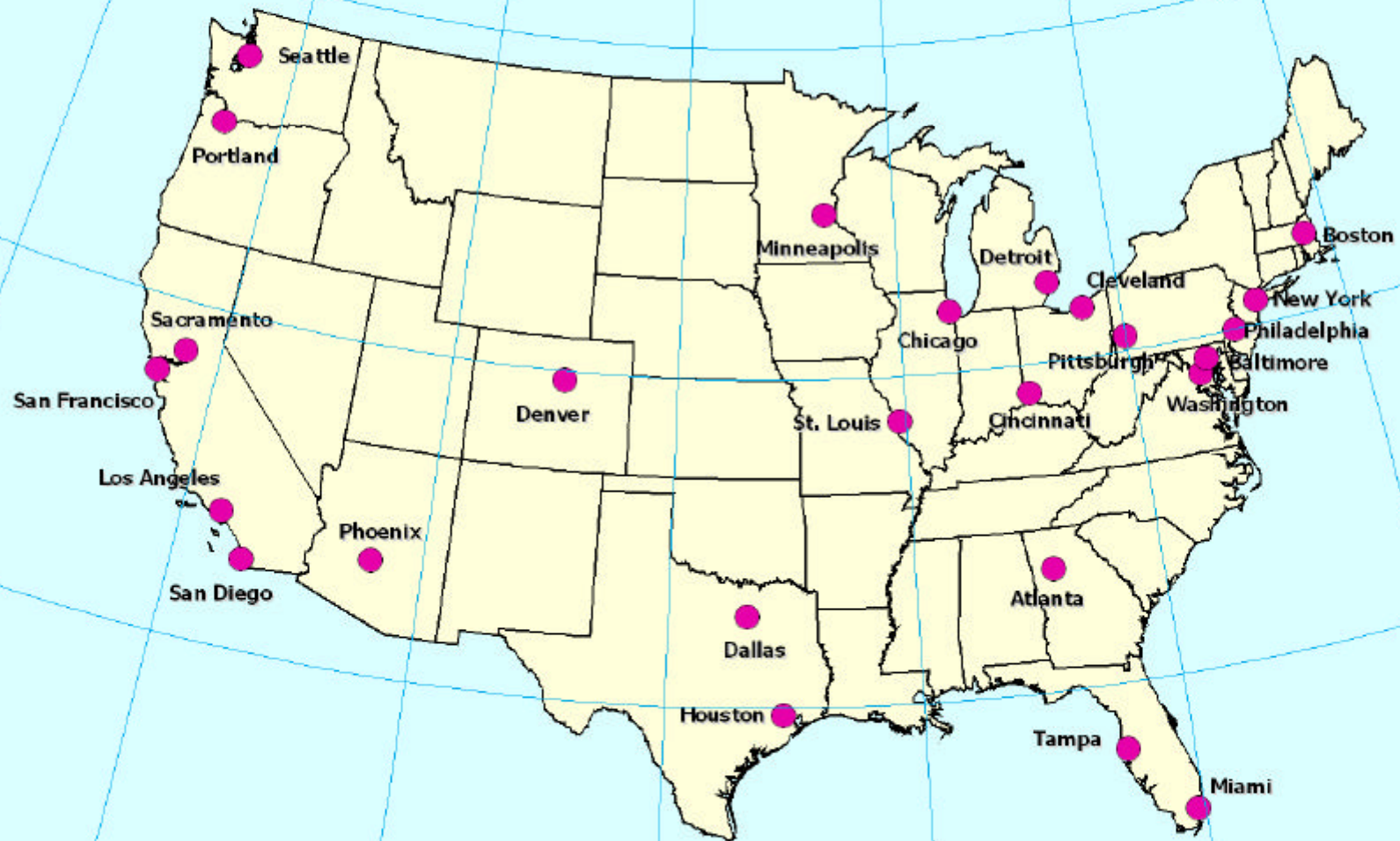
- ☑ **Why is it important to focus drug policy on the local level? *Different cities, different challenges.*** Each city in the 25-Cities Initiative has its own unique set of challenges when it comes to substance abuse. Likewise, each city possesses a range of tools that reflect current efforts to reduce drug use, including law enforcement, drug interdiction, education, treatment, and community-based coalitions. Some cities also have drug courts, student drug testing programs, a strong political commitment to reducing drug use, and coordination between law enforcement and prevention. The Office of National Drug Control Policy also hopes to identify successful initiatives at the local level that can be replicated as best practices in other cities.

- ☑ **What are the goals of the 25-Cities Initiative? *Encouraging, consolidating, and measuring.*** Our purpose in working with these cities is to reduce drug use in each city by:
 - Encouraging cities to use proven techniques in expanding their efforts to reduce drug use
 - Promoting coordination among all segments of the community
 - Assisting in the gathering and maintenance of accurate data to reflect the current state of drug use in each city

- ☑ **What are the key measures? *Using data to determine the scope of the problem.*** This effort will focus on reducing the prevalence of drug use in certain key measures. These measures will be applied to all cities, however the goal for each city may only affect certain measures or combinations thereof. Some of those measures are:
 - Use of illegal drugs by youths during the past month and year
 - Arrestee drug use data
 - Emergency room drug mentions
 - Price and purity of drugs
 - Scope and effectiveness of student drug testing regimens
 - Effectiveness of drug courts in diverting appropriate persons into treatment
 - Prevalence and effectiveness of anti-drug coalitions

- ☑ **What cities have been chosen for this initiative? *25 of America's largest cities.*** ONDCP will focus on the following cities: Atlanta, Baltimore, Boston, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, Minneapolis, New York, Philadelphia, Phoenix, Pittsburgh, Portland, Sacramento, San Diego, San Francisco, Seattle, St. Louis, Tampa, Washington, DC.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE 25-CITIES INITIATIVE
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ONDCP 25-Cities Initiative